

REMARKS

Claims 2-10, and amended claims 1 and 11 are in this application.

The Examiner appears to have rejected claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. In explaining this rejection, the Examiner stated that the term "the projection screens" in the last two lines of claim 11 "lacks clear antecedent basis." Claim 11 as presented herein is believed to satisfy 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-7 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 3-106298 A.

"a plurality of cabinets each having an opening portion only in front thereof and each adapted for accommodating one of the plurality of speaker units so that vibration plates of the plurality of speaker units are located at an internal side thereof relative to an end surface of the opening portions of the plurality of cabinets;" (Emphasis added.)

Accordingly, the apparatus of claim 1 includes a plurality of cabinets each having "an opening portion only in front thereof." As a result, sound waves from the speaker units of claim 1 may be radiated only from the front of the speaker units.

It is respectfully submitted that JP 3-106298 A does not appear to disclose "a plurality of cabinets each having an opening portion only in front thereof" as in claim 1. That is, although JP 3-106298 A appears to disclose speaker units arranged in cabinets, JP 3-106298 A does not appear to disclose the plurality of cabinets specifically recited in claim 1. More specifically, it appears that JP 3-106298 A discloses speaker

units arranged in cabinets of a rear open type (see for example Fig. 1b of JP 3-106298 A) or in sealed type cabinets.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is distinguishable from JP 3-106298 A as applied by the Examiner.

For reasons similar to or somewhat similar to those previously described with regard to claim 1, it is also respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 11 is also distinguishable from JP 3-106298 A as applied by the Examiner.

Claims 2-7 are dependent from independent claim 1. Accordingly, it is also respectfully submitted that dependent claims 2-7 are distinguishable from JP 3-106298 A as applied by the Examiner for at least the reasons previously described.

Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 3-106298 A in view of JP 5-199576 A.

Claim 8 is dependent from independent claim 1. Accordingly, it is also respectfully submitted that dependent claim 8 is distinguishable from JP 3-106298 A as applied by the Examiner for at least the reasons previously described. The Examiner does not appear to have relied on JP 5-199576 A to overcome the above-described deficiencies of JP 3-106298 A. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that dependent claim 8 is distinguishable from the applied combination of JP 3-106298 A and JP 5-199576 A.

Claims 8-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 3-106298 A in view of JP 5-244550 A.

Claims 8-10 are dependent from independent claim 1. Accordingly, it is also respectfully submitted that dependent claims 8-10 are distinguishable from JP 3-106298 A as applied by the Examiner for at least the reasons previously described. The Examiner does not appear to have relied on JP 5-244550 A to

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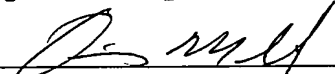
overcome the above-described deficiencies of JP 3-106298 A. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that dependent claims 8-10 are distinguishable from the applied combination of JP 3-106298 A and JP 5-244550 A.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been overcome, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections and/or rejections which the Examiner might have.

If there are any charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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